



"We ask only one question on our loan application: 'Are you out of your mind?'"

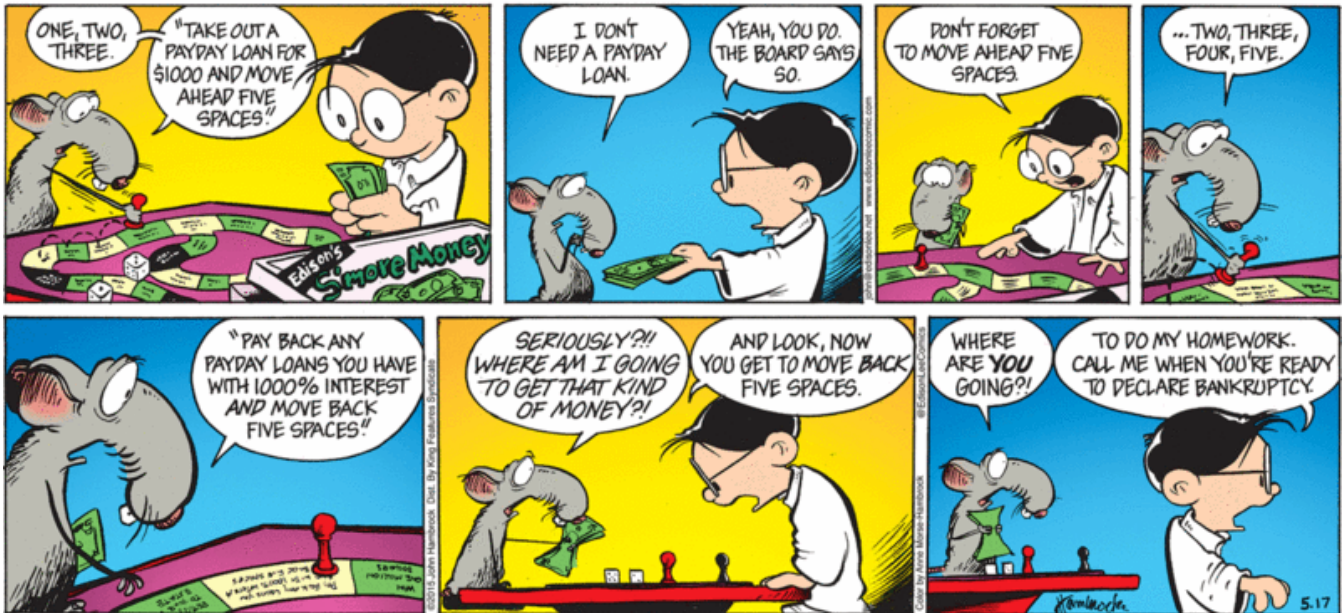
## April 2017 Fair Finance



Payday lenders have been in the news... again – for all the wrong reasons... again.

November last year saw Cash Converters take a \$12 million dollar hit from ASIC over their consistent flagrant abuse of lending laws and exploitation of vulnerable people. Last month, advocates for fair finance travelled to Canberra to lobby for tighter regulations of companies like Nimble and Radio Rentals (just 2 of the better-known companies named and shamed) to minimise the damage they can cause in people's lives. Though they are marketed as attractive alternatives to regular finance, they extract a huge, and often unexpected toll on the borrower. One lady is reported to have paid \$3042 for a \$345 dryer that she purchased through a rent-to-own scheme (Sydney Morning Herald – 24<sup>th</sup> march 2017).

Many, many borrowers of *Quick Loans* find themselves trapped in an ever-deepening spiral of debt as high interest rates and a range of exorbitant fees rapidly escalate the amount owed (s per the cartoon below).



With the Good Money Store opening in Southport this month, fair finance will become even more readily accessible. Seeds of Hope are also reviewing how we can make it easier for people to access NILS loans through our Carrara office. Please, please, PLEASE think twice before engaging with predatory lenders. Contact Seeds of Hope for more information on how we can help.

